

**FULBRIGHT-HAYS SEMINARS ABROAD PROGRAM
DESCRIPTION FOR PRIMARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATORS
(Grades K-8)**

India

- Seminar Title:** Exploring Cultural and Social Diversities in India
- Dates:** Pre-departure orientation: July 3 – July 4, 2018 (subject to change)
Program in India: July 6 - August 3, 2018 (subject to change)
- Participants:** U.S. teachers, curriculum specialists, librarians, media resource specialists, and administrators at the primary/middle school level (Kindergarten through 8th grade)

Program Content:

India is a country of great diversity. Every region of the country reveals different customs, traditions, and languages. This seminar will expose K-8 educators and administrators to the richness of India's diversity and will provide them with broader insight and understanding into India's history, society, religion, and culture and how these aspects have influenced social, political, and economic policies since the country's independence in 1947. The program will help U.S. educators in identifying reference materials and resources on India and developing curriculum projects for use in their classrooms.

The four-week program will take participants to Delhi, Pune, Kochi, Madurai/Chennai, Kolkata, Varanasi, and Agra.* The seminar is designed to enrich participants' knowledge by combining academic and cultural experiences. At each place, participants will be engaged in formal talks and discussions with policymakers, scholars, and social workers. In addition, they will visit a number of educational institutions – government, private, and those run by non-governmental organizations – both in urban and rural settings. By visiting these institutions, participants will gain first-hand knowledge on best practices and challenges faced by the Indian education system in its efforts to maintain a balance of educating the younger generation about the country's cultural and social heritage while also providing them training and skills in modern scientific fields.

The bilateral relationship between the United States and India is very strong, and the desire to understand India's history, culture and people has substantially increased in the U.S. By the end of the program, participants will be more knowledgeable about India so that they can apply their experiences to teaching methodology, curriculum enhancements, and/or educational leadership and conduct post-seminar outreach activities that engage their U.S. students, colleagues, civic and professional organizations, and the general public.

* The final list of places may vary.

We are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process; nonetheless, Seminar is contingent upon many factors, such as the availability of funds, the number or the quality of applications, and travel alerts. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final Congressional action. The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

**FULBRIGHT-HAYS SEMINARS ABROAD PROGRAM
DESCRIPTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS
(Grades 9-12)**

Ecuador

- Seminar Title:** Examining the Impact of Ecuador’s History, Biodiversity, and Cultural Diversity
- Dates:** Pre-departure orientation: July 16, 2018 – July 17, 2018 (subject to change)
Program in Bulgaria: July 18, 2018 – August 16, 2018 (subject to change)
- Participants:** U.S. teachers, curriculum specialists, librarians, media resource specialists, and administrators at the secondary level
(9th through 12th grade)

Program Content:

Ecuador has the highest population density of any country in South America, with a population of approximately 16.3 million people. It is ethnically and culturally diverse with numerous indigenous groups, languages, customs, and religions.

For its size, Ecuador is one of the most biodiverse places on earth. The Amazon is home to an abundance of plant and animal life and holds a world record of 150 amphibian species and many species of birds, butterflies and trees. Despite its rich biodiversity, Ecuador has one of the highest deforestation rates in Latin American, due to the pressures of development as well as the government’s reliance on the energy sector to generate revenues to finance state projects. The economic pressures to export petroleum and agricultural products, mine minerals and metals, and farm shrimp have severe repercussions for the homes, livelihoods, and cultures of indigenous groups.

The seminar will begin in Quito followed by visits to cities and rural communities in the highlands, coastal, and upper Amazon areas, as well as the Galapagos Islands,* time and budget permitting. Each location will provide U.S. educators with a unique opportunity to gain a general understanding of the historical, political, economic, and cultural factors that led to the creation of a “plurinational” society, which is defined in the Ecuadorian Constitution as the coexistence of several different nationalities within a larger state in which different peoples, cultures and worldviews exist and are recognized. The seminar will also touch on the current challenges that Ecuadorians face in this plurinational society.

Seminar participants will have the opportunity to attend lectures and participate in round table discussions with Ecuadorian educators, professionals, indigenous and community leaders, and government officials. Participants will receive assistance in identifying resources for their individual curriculum projects, including portfolios. This seminar will enable participants to expand and improve their current teaching or curriculum development related to the biodiversity, history, political systems, and cultural and ethnic diversity found in the Andean region.

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FULBRIGHT-HAYS SEMINARS ABROAD PROGRAM DESCRIPTION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATORS

Poland

- Seminar Title:** Exploring Contemporary United States – Poland Relations
- Dates:** Pre-departure orientation: July 5-6, 2018 (subject to change)
Program in Poland: July 8 – August 5, 2018 (subject to change)
- Participants:** U.S. educators, administrators, librarians, museum educators, and media resource specialists at the postsecondary level

Program Content:

Poland, a country in Central Europe with over 1,000 years of rich history, is undergoing dynamic transformation. Having regained independence as a nation state in 1918, Poland will celebrate its centennial in 2018, with numerous educational institutions, museums, and citizens holding special commemorative events. The United States played a significant role in reestablishing the Polish state after World War I, leading to better diplomatic relations between the two nations.

Over the past 100 years of statehood, Poland experienced significant challenges, including the terror of World War II and Soviet communist dominance imposed after the end of the war, which resulted in creation of the Polish People's Republic. Polish citizens rebelled a number of times during that period and eventually formed a unique world-scale solidarity movement that led to regaining full sovereignty. Since 1989, Poland has undergone tremendous economic, political, and social change. As a result, Poland is now ranked 36th out of 188 countries in the Human Development Index because of improvements in life expectancy, education, and income. As a member of NATO and the European Union, Poland has also built international ties and recognition.

The four-week program will explore the relationship between the United States and Poland and delve into politics, national security, culture, and economics. The participants will have an opportunity to meet experts across different academic fields who will share their knowledge on international relations, specifically concentrating on the United States and Poland. Participants will also travel across Poland to see historical sites as well as fast-growing areas (Warsaw, Cracow, Wroclaw, and Gdansk) to experience the richness of Polish culture and meet outstanding Polish scholars from academic centers. The participants will take part in discussions and cultural events designed to connect specialists from different academic disciplines and allow them to experience the spirit of contemporary Poland. The program will allow the participants to pursue their individual academic interests, develop their respective curriculum projects that they will bring back to their classrooms, and share their broadened knowledge and experiences with students and colleagues in the United States.

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